

NEWS & ALERTS FROM THE SMART GRID INTEROPERABILITY PANEL (SGIP)

Monday, December 10, 2012

SGIP Governing Board Holds Final Meeting as Transition to SGIP 2.0 Nears Completion

At its December 2 meeting in Irving, TX, the Governing Board of the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP) heard an update from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), began consideration of 14 additional standards for the Catalog of Standards, continued its international outreach, and received reports from the four SGIP standing committees.

This meeting of the Governing Board was its final meeting. As a result of the upcoming transition of the SGIP to “SGIP 2.0”—a transition from a federally funded organization to an industry-financed legal entity that retains a working partnership with government—the duties of the Governing Board will be assumed by a Board of Directors. The recently established Board of Directors, which held its first open meeting on December 3, is composed of 21 members of the current Governing Board, thereby ensuring continuity during the transition. This article focuses on the Governing Board meeting. (A separate article will review the SGIP 2.0 Board of Directors meeting.)

NIST Update

George Arnold, National Coordinator for Smart Grid Interoperability and Director of the Smart Grid and Cyber Physical Systems Program Office at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), reported on recent Smart Grid-related activities at NIST. Arnold reviewed the history of the establishment of the SGIP and its transition to an industry-financed private-public partnership. He pointed out that the “remarkable” process was accomplished in just three years, as compared to a similar process for Internet standards coordination that was accomplished in seven years. He pledged that NIST will continue to be a strong supporter and active participant in SGIP 2.0, and reported that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NIST and SGIP is being signed on December 4 at the Grid-Interop meeting.

Arnold announced that, on November 29, NIST posted a [Federal Funding Opportunity \(FFO\) for a “Smart Grid Interoperability Standards Cooperative Agreement Program.”](#) NIST is soliciting proposals from eligible applicants for “a program with substantial NIST participation that will support continuous innovation of the electrical grid through the coordination and acceleration of standards development and harmonization and advancement of the interoperability and security of smart grid devices and systems.” As described in the FFO, NIST anticipates funding one multi-year project with a budget and performance period through the end of fiscal year 2015 for up to \$2,750,000, subject to the availability of funds.

Arnold also announced that NIST will continue its contract with the SGIP Administrator through March 2013, in order to ensure a smooth transition of work to the SGIP 2.0 organization.

Fourteen Additional Standards Considered for Catalog of Standards

The Catalog of Standards process, which is used to thoroughly review and document the standards under consideration, is nearing completion for 14 more standards. At its December 2 meeting, the Governing Board began consideration of these standards. In the coming days, the Board will vote by electronic ballot on whether to recommend these standards for inclusion in the Catalog of Standards. The standards will then be submitted, in late December or early January, to the full SGIP membership for a final vote. (The current membership roster of SGIP members-in-good-standing will be used for the vote.)

The fourteen standards now under consideration are the following:

- NAESB REQ 21
- NAESB REQ 22
- IEC/TS 62351-x Series
 - IEC/TS 62351-1
 - IEC/TS 62351-2
 - IEC/TS 62351-3
 - IEC/TS 62351-4
 - IEC/TS 62351-5
 - IEC/TS 62351-6
 - IEC/TS 62351-7
- ITU-T G.9960
- ITU-T G.9972
- NISTIR 7862
- IEEE 1901-2010
- AEIC Guidelines

During the Governing Board discussion of these standards, one of the items (AEIC Guidelines) prompted considerable debate.

The Catalog of Standards currently includes more than 40 standards or standards components. Based on the positive vote of the SGIP Plenary (99% in favor), concluded on November 21, the ASHRAE 135-2010 standard (BACnet—A Data Communication Protocol for Building Automation and Control Networks) was recently added to the Catalog of Standards. It is anticipated that the catalog will eventually contain hundreds of consensus documents.

International Outreach

The Governing Board's emphasis on international outreach and partnerships continues to yield positive results:

- At this week's meetings, the SGIP signed a Letter of Invitation (LOI) with Colombia's national effort for interoperability standards development, which is being coordinated by ICONTEC with support from the Colombia Inteligente Initiative. The letter proposes an approach to enhance the coordination between the two organizations, with a goal of helping assure that Smart Grid interoperability standards are applicable across the widest possible range of applications around the world. (See photo below.)
- The number of international organizations that have joined the SGIP has now reached triple digits. The 100th member, joining in recent weeks, is the Korea Conformity Laboratories.
- Dr. Hiroshi Kuniyoshi, Executive Director of NEDO and Secretary General of JSCA (Japan Smart Community Alliance), is addressing SGIP members at lunch on December 4.
- A joint workshop with the Korea Smart Grid Standardization Forum (KSGSF) will be held on December 7, immediately following the Grid-Interop 2012 conference in Irving, TX.

Reports from Standing Committees

The Governing Board heard reports from the four standing committees:

- CyberSecurity Working Group (CSWG)
- Smart Grid Architecture Committee (SGAC)
- Smart Grid Implementation Methods Committee (SGIMC)
- Smart Grid Testing and Certification Committee (SGTCC)

The chair of each group outlined their group's 2012 accomplishments and their 2013 plans. Details from each report are available online.

Additional information about the [Governing Board's December meeting is available online.](#)



Jorge Valencia (Board Member, Colombia Inteligente, representing Colombia Inteligente/ICONTEC) and John McDonald (Chairman, SGIP Governing Board) sign Letter of Intent at December 3 Plenary Session (left to right).

A full recap of the Winter Face-to-Face and Grid-Interop will be provided later this week.

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